Dear Parents and Carers

Staff News

Good luck to Mrs Danielle Richardson who is away for Weeks 9 and 10 as she’s taking leave for an overseas holiday. This is a well-deserved break and I hope she has a great time.

Good luck to Mrs Sarah Waller who heads off this Thursday to accompany her daughter Gabby when she swims at the national schools’ championships in Darwin. This should we be a wonderful experience.

Following interviews last week, I have made a recommendation to Catholic Education for the appointment of a new Director for our Early Learning Centre. I strongly believe our Director will be a wonderful asset to the Early Learning Centre and to our school staff. The foundational staff will have a big but exciting role to play in 2017. I hope to be able to make this announcement soon and let everybody know.

This week I will be putting up the new teaching positions for the Early Learning Centre for 2017. There will be two classrooms but three classes of up to 22 students in each. Currently there are 63 students enrolled out of a maximum 66 places. The classes are most likely to be taught by two full-time staff or perhaps one class could have part-time staff.

Term 3 Learning Journey’s

You may be aware that in our school calendar we have down Learning Journeys for this Thursday 15 September between 8.30am – 10.00am. It has been a busy term with school registration but we do want to provide the chance to showcase student achievement to our community too. This is a great opportunity for students and classes to reflect on their work in Term 3. There is no formal school report in Term 3 so this ‘open classroom style’ morning is a way for parents and carers to come and view and discuss with their child what they have achieved or areas they feel they need more support and encouragement. This event has been well attended in the past two years and we welcome your attendance again this week.

Often students have set goals for the term or semester and may be able to show evidence of how they have achieved these or are still working towards achieving them. It may be a time to set some new goals and perhaps share them with the class teacher.

Please be mindful that the class teachers will be present and available for informal discussions on the student’s progress and effort but they would not be able to have a formal discussion about any matters. Teachers would like to be able to move around their classroom and be available to talk briefly with as many people as possible. I encourage you to make another time for a meeting with the class teacher/s to discuss any matters at length.

Successful Year 4 Camp to Sydney

Congratulations to the students and staff on the Year 4 Camp in Sydney last week. For many students it may have been their first overnight stay away from family and friends and I have heard many positive stories about the experience. All students have benefitted and learnt from the experience. Thank you to our camp staff: Mrs Laura Stankovic, Mrs Heather Naylor, Mr Josh Vaughan, Miss Beth Lehmensich, Mrs Alisa Spackman and Mr Ben McDevitt.
Walkathon

Our Annual Walkathon is this Friday 16 September. Weather permitting, we will go ahead as Term 4 is very busy! Children and families walking might need to prepare for some overcast weather and a chance of light rain. If needed, we may have to modify the distance walked for some year levels or adjust the timing of the start but fingers crossed we have a clear period of weather! The decision to go ahead or not will be made at school so all children should come prepared and wearing the colours of an Olympic country or favourite sports team. It is a uniform free day. The plan is for students to have an early eating/recess from 10.20am and then we hope to have about 15 minutes from 11.00am to get ready before the classes start walking from 11.15am. Thank you to the parents that are able to walk with the students or take on a formal volunteer role. Your help is greatly appreciated and helps the students with safety along the walk. The BBQ lunch will go ahead regardless of the weather so the children know that lunch will be provided.

It will be a great day for the community and I thank Louise Patton and Tracy Adamson for their organisation and motivation to make the day a success. Many fundraising targets are being met each week so thank you to everyone for supporting the P&F event.

WWVP Cards

If you have a current WWVP card, please carry it with you on walkathon Day and at school whenever you help. If you do not have a card yet you are still able to assist by signing a statutory declaration form stating that you are able to work with children and vulnerable people. (See the front office or the coordinators of the walkathon for more information).

Class Considerations for 2017

It is that time of the year again where I will be shortly asking parents to formally contact me if they would like to make a consideration for their child’s class placement in 2017. I expect I can start this process from next week but I will notify you via the school newsletter and skoolbag app. I am waiting for confirmation about the staffing allocation for St Anthony’s for 2017 and the likely class groupings I can provide. I will keep you informed.

Grandparent’s Day

I wanted to HIGHLIGHT the date for this very important day in 2016. We have moved the special day to Term 4 this year and it is on FRIDAY 4 November (Week 4). This always a celebration of our grandparents and other special family members that do so much in the lives of our students. Please spread the word and claim the date and more information will be provided on the times and structure of the day.

Parents and Friends Meeting this Wednesday

The next P&F Meeting is tonight Wednesday 14 September in the school library at 7pm.

Tonight I will show a draft plan of the Master Plan being devised by the School Board in consultation with Catholic Education and our architects Munns and Sly. Discussions have been in process at School Board level for approximately 12 months and with the architects for a couple of months.

I invite you to come along and discuss this plan but also other matters discussed at the P & F meeting.

Other important Term 4 Dates:

- Boorowa Netball and Touch carnival – Friday 21 October (Week 2)
- Catholic Schools Netball Carnival – Sunday 30 October (Week 3)
- First Reconciliation Thursday 24 November (Week 7)
- P & F Trivia Night (Booked for Friday 18 November and is to be confirmed)
- Year 6 Graduation Mass and dinner Thursday 8 December (Week 9)
- Kindergarten Nativity Friday 9 December (Week 9)
Entertaining Year 2 Assembly!
Thank you to Year 2 for their wonderful assembly on Friday afternoon. It was a wet day and students were inside all day leading up to the assembly. The assembly was very entertaining and a perfect way to showcase their class learning and also to keep our audience engaged! They were singing and moving along with the show. Well done on a great effort.

Disco Thanks
Thank you to the staff and volunteers that were able to help with the school disco on Friday night. It has been a busy term but the disco was successful. Thank you to Maree and the P & F for running another great night.

Year 5 Camp
Good luck to our Year 5 teachers Mr Angas Quantrill and Miss Nicole Ptycia as they prepare for their camp to Ballarat in Victoria. It is a great camp that complements their current history unit and the impact of the gold rush on society. Thank you to Mr Michael Bradley and Mr Jon Liddle who have also volunteered to go on the camp and I’m sure having experienced staff there that have been on this camp before will be of benefit. The camp is for three nights and four days from Monday to Thursday.

Thank you to everyone for your continued efforts during this busy term. We just have one week to go after this week and we get a two week break!

God Bless

Greg Walker

School Fees
Term 3 School Fees are now OVERDUE. If you require a copy of the last financial years building fund statement they can be collected from the front office. Payments may be made by cash, cheque, credit card, BPAY, EFTPOS or Direct Debit. There is a formal process to apply for fee concessions if you are experiencing financial difficulties. Please contact me for more details. Parents who do not wish to pay the building fund due to financial difficulties need put this in writing addressed to Mr Greg Walker, this is a yearly requirement. Thank You. Judy Mead

Happy Birthday to:

Have a wonderful day!

Student of the Week
Congratulations to the following students who are this week’s student of the week:


Certificates will be presented at Friday morning assembly
A reflection of prayer

Pope John Paul II beatified Mother Teresa on October 19, 2003. Pope Francis canonised her on September 4, 2016, during the Year of Mercy.

The secret of Mother Teresa’s life: “My secret is very simple: I pray. If we learn to pray, we will belong to Jesus. I realise that praying to Him is loving Him. Love to pray. Does your mind and your heart go to Jesus as soon as you get up in the morning? This is prayer. We need prayer. Feel the need to pray often during the day. Prayer, to be fruitful, must come from the heart. Prayer enlarges the heart. Let us remember: if we want to be able to love, we must be able to pray. If you want to pray better, you have to pray more. The more you pray, the better you will pray. Prayer is the very life of oneness, of being with Christ”.

Mother Teresa wrote in no greater love: “in the silence of the heart God speaks. If you face God in prayer and silence, God will speak to you. Then you will know that you are nothing. It is only when you realise your nothingness, your emptiness, that God can fill you with Himself. Souls of Prayer are souls of great silence”.

Mother Teresa’s recipe for life, called Path to Peace:

The fruit of SILENCE is PRAYER
The fruit of PRAYER is FAITH
The fruit of FAITH is LOVE
The fruit of LOVE is SERVICE
The fruit of SERVICE is PEACE

Ask Jesus what he wants from you and be brave!

Pope Francis

Orla Rutledge
Religious Education Coordinator.
Clothing Pool

The Clothing Pool will be open this Wednesday from 3.00pm – 4.00pm, this will be the last open before the school holidays.

**New items:** St Anthony school bucket hats $11 each. Sizes S, M, L. Looking for something for the kids to carry their drink bottles in for the walk-a-thon. We have drink bottle, over the shoulder canvas bags for $5 each.

**Pre-loved clothing:** Boys long pants $2, Polo Tops $5, Jumpers $5, Winter Dresses $15.

Please note we do not have credit card facilities so please bring along your cash.

Illness at School

Please be aware that a student has had a reported case of the chicken pox.

There has been a spike in illnesses such as gastro and cold/flu and for the health, well-being and protection of all students and staff children will be sent home if they insist that they are unwell. We understand that it can be frustrating to be called during your work day to collect children from school especially if you think they are well enough to be at school. If your child miraculously feels better when you get them home, perhaps a day in bed may make them appreciate how much fun school is.

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**St Anthony’s Netball**

Saturday was the end of the Winter 2016 netball season and with 8 registered teams playing, it was a fantastic year for all our St Anthony’s teams. A big thank you to all the coaches, managers and players for dedicating their time, energy and Saturday mornings into making 2016 an amazing year for St Anthony’s netball.

**Year 2 Hurricanes** - What a way to see out our first season of Netball. Our last game was lots of fun playing in the rain as well as the excitement of the mixed up teams as the Hurricanes and Cyclones were versing each other for the final round. The yellow & blue bibs went into a bag and the girls selected positions to play. It has been a wonderful year watching the girl’s skills develop and their love of Netball grow. St Anthony’s will continue to have a strong presence at TNA on Saturday mornings for many more years with the enthusiasm and skill coming from this group of girls.

Many thanks to the St Anthony’s Netball Committee for all their support, to all our wonderful parents who have supported their daughters in many ways through their first season of Netball. Our very enthusiastic warm-up team on Saturdays morning lead by Anton who have the girls all fired up for each game. And to anyone who has stepped in to run training session all your amazing efforts are very much appreciated.

Special mention and thanks go to Louise Brown and Liza Marando for the amazing jobs of managing the 2 teams and of course to Lou Patton for all her advice, patience and great circuits at training!! See you all next year Hurricanes & Cyclones!!!

**Year 2 Cyclones** - We had a fantastic end to the season with a St Anthony’s Cyclones v Hurricanes derby scheduled on the draw. The girls picked a mystery bib out of the bag at each quarter and had a great time playing with the random mix of players who landed on their team each quarter. We received our TNA medals at the official presentation, then enjoyed a rainy morning tea together. We have had an absolutely fantastic season. Huge thanks to everyone who helped out the Cyclones, especially Anton and Mel Scott-Cameron for warm-ups, Luke Hazell for coaching in my absence, Taryn Virtue for umpiring in Liza’s absence. Thanks to all the wonderful parents for their support at training and encouragement at games. Last but not least, huge thanks to manager and umpire extraordinaire Liza Marando for doing a tremendous job, and Josie Rutten for all your amazing support throughout the year, especially at training. Hope to see everyone back next year! Gooooo Cyclones!
Year 4 Thunder – Well the rain Gods have tested us this last few weeks but held off long enough Saturday for Thunder to finish the season off with an amazing 22-6 win, over a team we had not played all season due to previous wet weather. I have been very lucky with a beautiful bunch of girls who are spirited and lively and keep me on my toes. We have had a great season and lucky enough to finish on top in a tight race with St Anthony’s Lightning. Has been an all-round great effort by both teams and I’m proud of all the girls from year 4 across the board. Our last game showed me that despite thinking I was talking to myself for the last 2 terms something has sunk in. Defence was again outstanding with intercept after intercept and our shooters finishing the defence hard work off with the goals. Every week the girls have played as a team and that’s all a coach can ask for. I would also like to thank all the year 3 girls that played up this season, it was awesome to see the talent coming through. Thanks to all the parents who supported the girls and even stood in the rain to watch some very entertaining games. GO THUNDER!!!

Year 6 Fantales – The Year 6 Fantales battled it out in the rain and wind on Saturday morning to play their final game for St Anthony’s. Playing against the Gowrie Girlfriends, it was set to be their toughest game for the season. Defenders Rachel C and Georgina W (Yr 5) were amazing in their defence against some of the toughest shooters in the comp. Leila S, Charlotte F and Halle R were unmatched in the centre court, with their intercepts and brilliant passes giving the team the edge it needed to control the game. The amazing and unstoppable shooting of Kaycie A and Angela L, both barely missing a goal, sealed the Opposition’s fate, bringing home not only a 22-17 win for the Fantales, but first place in the Year 6 Blue competition. What an amazing way for all the girls to end their St Anthony’s netball careers. A very special thank you to super-coach Alisa S – the girls’ awesomeness on the court was taught by you!!! Congratulations.
WALKATHON THIS FRIDAY 16 SEPTEMBER!

We are very excited about the Walkathon which is happening this Friday! Further information is available on the Skoolbag app and website, but the main things to remember are:

- Anyone who wishes to purchase a snack pack must return the note and money by Wednesday 14 September (notes went home last Friday and are on the Skoolbag app). All children will need to bring recess as usual, but will receive a free BBQ lunch.
- Dress in Olympic themed costumes (can be inspired by an Olympic athlete, Olympic sport or the country allocated to your child’s class).
- Bring sneakers, school hat, drink bottle and sunscreen.
- Sponsorship cards and money to be returned to school as soon as possible after the Walkathon. The final deadline for return is Wednesday 12 October (week 1 of term 3). All major and minor prizes will be awarded at assembly on Friday 14 October.

Our grand total raised so far is at $14,626.20 and rising! So close to our free icy pole day! I hope everyone enjoyed uniform free day last Wednesday.

Our highest raising class last week was Sensational 1L again! Special mention to 1P, 2L, KP and 6A who had a great week. Congratulations to our lucky winners last Friday in the weekly double chance prize draw – Emily (2L), Amelia (1L), Charlie (1L) and Erin (1P). We are restocking our prizes in time for the final prize-giving assembly.

Many thanks to everyone who responded to the call for volunteers, we look forward to seeing you on Friday. Here’s hoping for a beautiful day!

Australia’s Paralympic gold medallists (so far)